

a guide to the
world cup



BRAIN
DAMAGE

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A GUIDE TO THE WORLD CUP

While the focus of the World Cup should always be about football, and it is. But, it's very difficult, dare I say ignorant to overlook how this world cup is playing out off of the pitch.

How a chance to invite the world into your country to experience the culture and unite behind 'the worlds game', has becoming a money making exercise for the president of FIFA, Gianni Infantino, and the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, who have similar ideas on how this tournament should be run.

FIFA (the global football federation) a historically corrupt 'charity' is continuing on with its charade of being something other than a money making organization.

Price gouging of fans has been a controversial topic, with tickets priced more similarly to American sports, which is a huge rise from previous tournaments.

Other concerns surround Human Rights issues across the USA, with the immigration and customs enforcement (ICE) being rumoured to be present at matches, as well as the dubious nature of human rights in the United States

WELCOME TO THE 2026 WORLD CUP

From the 11th June to the 19th July, the 2026 world cup will be hosted across the USA, Mexico and Canada.

A record 48 nations and 104 games to play in a new expanded world cup format.

It's 4 different nations first time playing at the world cup finals, those teams being Cape Verde, Jordan, Curaçao and Uzbekistan.

Argentina won the previous iteration and will be looking to win their fourth world cup in 2026.

The world cup 2026 will take place across 16 different cities with the final taking place at the Metlife stadium in New York/New Jersey.

England are seeded 4th in the FIFA world ranking behind Spain (1), Argentina (2) and France (3).

FIFA PEACE PRIZE

The President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, was presented with the inaugural “FIFA Peace Prize – Football Unites the World” by FIFA President Gianni Infantino during the Final Draw for the FIFA World Cup 2026, in December 2025.

Awarded to Trump for his heroics in 2025, described as a man who has "taken exceptional and extraordinary actions for peace" and "united people across the world".

"objectively, he deserves it".

said the FIFA president in response to questions about Donald Trump winning the award.

some critics consider this a ‘made up award’ to massage the ego of Donald J Trump prior to the world cup.



FIFA PEACE PRIZE 2025

TRUMP

ENGLAND SQUAD

Goalkeepers

JORDAN PICKFORD
DEAN HENDERSON
JAMES TRAFFORD

Defenders

REECE JAMES
TINO LIVRAMENTO
MARC GUEHI
EZRI KONSA
JOHN STONES
JARELL QUANSAH
NICO O'REILLY
DAN BURN
DJED SPENCE

Midfielders

DECLAN RICE
ELLIOT ANDERSON
JUDE BELLINGHAM
JORDAN HENDERSON
MORGAN ROGERS
KOBBIE MAINOO

Forwards

HARRY KANE
IVAN TONEY
OLLIE WATKINS
BUKAYO SAKA
NONI MADUEKE
MARCUS RASHFORD
ANTHONY GORDON
EBERECHI EZE

Thomas Tuchel has selected these 26 players to win the world cup. Controversial omissions, the likes of Phil Foden, Cole Palmer and Trent Alexander-Arnold, and controversial inclusions, being Jordan Henderson and Djed Spence. Fan reaction has been one of bewilderment and frustration with our German manager, but only the tournament itself will show us how selections choices pan out.



IS IT COMING HOME?



Can these stars help England win the world cup for the first time in 60 years!
(for the mens game.)

England have the highest valued squad at the world cup with a combined estimated value of £1.26 billion.



England are among the favorites to win the world cup, trailing only Spain and France according to the bookies.

In the previous two editions of the world cup england have crashed out in the quater-finals (2022) and the semi-finals (2018).

In the previous two editions of the euros (2020, 2024) england have finished runners up.



TICKETS AND STADIUM

MIAMI STADIUM

Category 1	
Category 2	
Category 3	
Category 4	
Accessible Seating Area	



Category 1: The highest-priced seats, located primarily in the lower tier

Category 2: Positioned outside of Category 1 areas, available in both lower and upper tiers

Category 3: Located outside of Category 1 and 2 areas, typically in the upper tier

Category 4: The most affordable category

That small circle on the lower right hand side of the stadium is one of the 4 small sections in each of the corners that are examples of the miami stadiums category 4 tickets.

TICKET BREAKDOWN AND COST

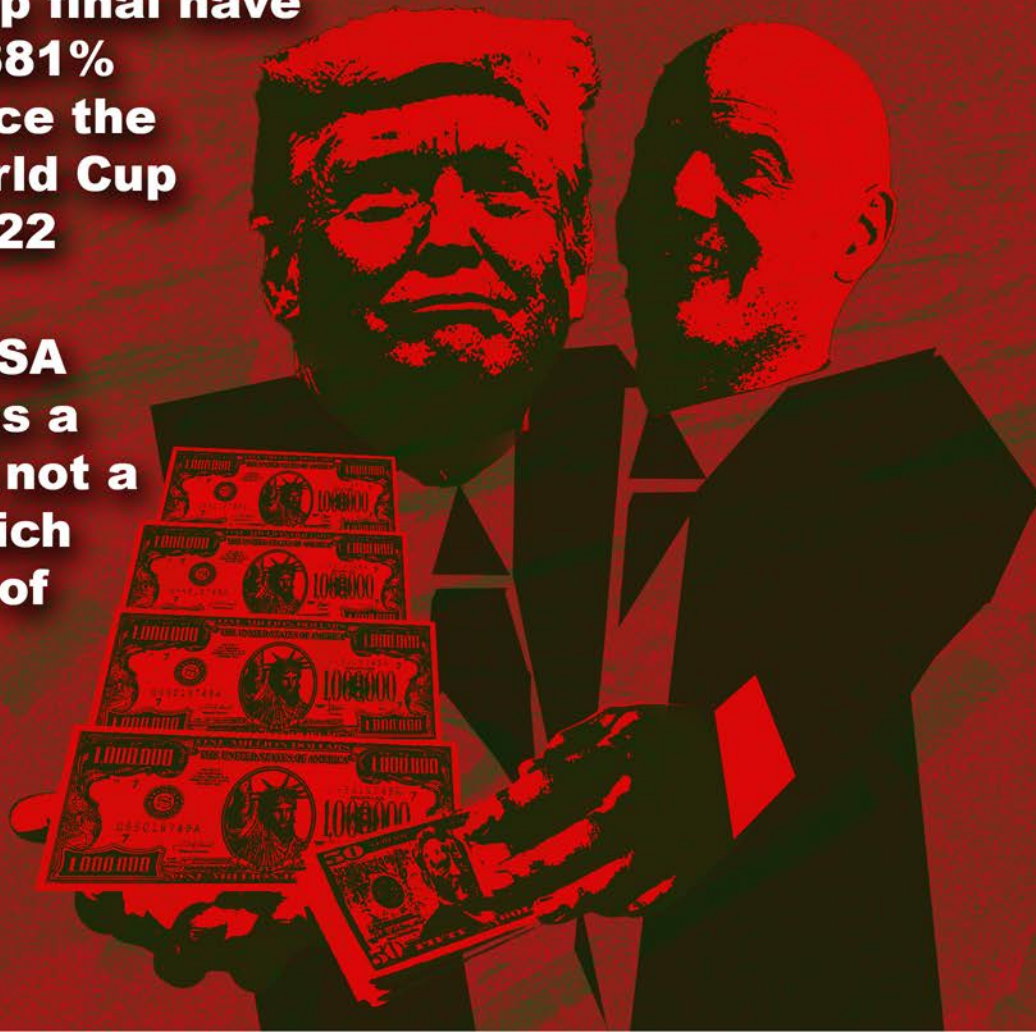
	% of Stadium	Price (Group Stage)
Category 1	60-70%	\$300 - 620
Category 2	15-20%	\$200 - \$350
Category 3	10%	\$140 - \$250
Category 4	5-10%	\$60 - \$105

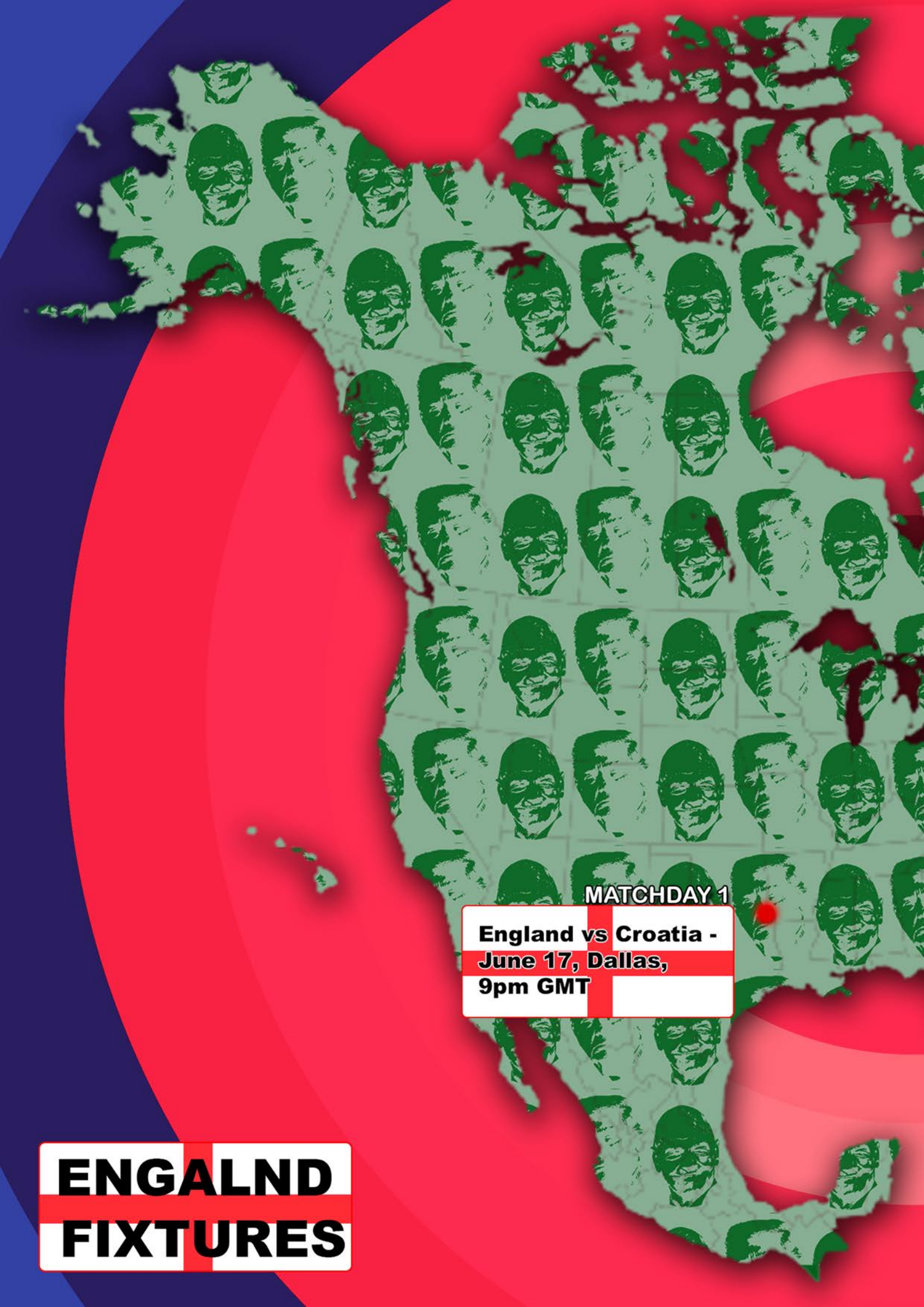
KNOCKOUT ROUND

Round of 32	£175 to £456
Round of 16	£220 to £575
Quarter-final	£508 to £1,076
Semi-final	£687 to £2,370
Final	£3,129 to £6,489

Catagory 3 tickets to the world cup final have seen a 592.881% increase since the previous World Cup hosted in 2022

Historically the USA has seen sports as a luxury event, and not a cultural event which could be a cause of these increases.





MATCHDAY 1

**England vs Croatia -
June 17, Dallas,
9pm GMT**

**ENGALND
FIXTURES**

TICKETS & TRAVEL

FLIGHT PRICES (GROUP STAGE)

LDN - DALLAS	\$914
DALLAS - BOSTON	\$305
BOSTON - NEW JERSEY	\$144
TOTAL -	£1363

MATCHDAY 2

England vs Ghana -
June 23, Boston,
9pm GMT

MATCHDAY 3

Panama vs England -
June 27, New Jersey,
10pm (UK time)

TICKET PRICES

Croatia	£198 to £523
Ghana	£164 to £448
Panama	£164 to £463
TOTAL -	£526 to 1434

TOTAL COST
£1889 to £2797

accomodation not included

sources: skysports, delta airlines

ENGLAND AT THE WORLD CUP

If you missed tickets to the World Cup, you may try and get them on resale for an even more extortionate cost.

	Resale (1)	Resale (2)
Category 1	£1,309	£1,310
Category 2	£874	£1,254
Category 3	£682	£1,311



The United Kingdom Football Policing Unit (UKFPU) estimates that between 12,000 and 15,000 England supporters will attend each group stage fixture.

89,000 tickets have been purchased by England-based fans, though these are spread across the entire tournament schedule.



“LEAVE POLITICS OUT OF FOOTBALL”

(Unless it benefits me.)

Farage said, when speaking on the appointment of German manager Thomas Tuchel, “At a time when national identity matters more than it has for a very, very long time, and there is a resurgence in a sense of what it means to be English in an unashamed way, Gareth Southgate fitted the bill incredible well. This is a retrograde step in my view.”

Right wing rhetoric describes foreigners as invaders, entering a nation to take and pillage. This fosters an environment of fear. And pushes the agenda of homogeneity

A lot of these British Nationalists see themselves as warriors trying to protect their ‘own’ through any means necessary .

The Athletic reported that among a variety of regular England chants that are usually sung at international tournaments, a new crop of songs emerged. “Stop the boats, stop the boats,” they chant. “Nigel Farage, we’re all voting for Reform UK.”

This snapshot in Belgrade does not prove that every England fan backs Reform. Neither did the chants of “Keir Starmer is a w***er” during another qualifier against Andorra played at Villa Park four days earlier.





Reform UK is a party build upon populism and nationalism under Farage, an ally of U.S. President Donald Trump, and which borrows heavily from the Make America Great Again movement's principles.

When football leagues have initiatives promoting equity for example their Black Lives Matter campaign or the Rainbow Laces campaign. Attacking 'politics in football' as a culture war talking point.

St George and Richard the Lionheart are both fables of brave warriors who's mythos has been hijacked by the far right in an attempt to sew division. Portrayed as righteous defenders, as the populist right sees themselves.

FOOTBALL HOOLIGANISM

Football has had hooligans since its inception and by 1960 English football had a reputation for violence.

After the 'Heysel Stadium disaster' in May 1985, in which 14 Liverpool fans were convicted of manslaughter, after tensions between sets of Liverpool and Juventus supporters flared. The stadium was in need of maintenance and had not been repaired, it had failed inspections prior to the disaster, and a wall collapsed under the force of fans. 39 spectators—mostly Italians and Juventus fans—were killed in the subsequent crush, while 600 more were injured.

The tragedy resulted in all English football clubs being placed under an indefinite ban by Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) from all European competitions (lifted in 1990–91), with Liverpool being excluded for an additional three years.

Some fans urinated

IN DEFENSE OF FANS

Hooliganism is a media created term that has been used rather flexibly and unreliably to create narratives.

For example during the Hillsborough disaster in which police fed the press false stories suggesting that football hooliganism and drunkenness by Liverpool supporters had caused the disaster, despite an inquiry into the disaster called the 'Taylor Report' had proved the events were caused by a failure in policing, the hooligan narrative continued pushed by tabloids, specifically The Sun Newspaper.

DI GRIEVES FOR LEE, AGED 14: Pages 2 a

After the Euro 2020 final the English football association recieved a £84,500 fine and a 2 match crowd ban because fans became violent and stormed the Wembley Stadium following the loss on penalties to the Italian national team.



Hooliganism has been referred to as the 'English Disease', despite this title it isn't an exclusively english phenomenon, with Turkish and Italian football fans infamous in the modern day.

GIVE ISRAEL THE RED CARD!

Football and politics inherently mix, even fifa agrees, Fifa has banned several nations from participating in events such as Russia, due to the war in Ukraine.

Despite the loud calls to kick Israel out of FIFA and UEFA, the stance of Infantino's FIFA has been to allow Israel to continue to participate, however not unreprimanded. FIFA's disciplinary committee fined the IFA 150,000 Swiss francs (£ 141,989) for "multiple breaches" of its anti-discrimination obligations.

The 'official' death toll in Gaza has reached 73,000, as Israel continues to drop bombs in the gaza strip despite a ceasefire being in place.

Since October 2023 the Israeli government has been committing genocide in the gaza strip. It's indiscriminate bombing campaign and the numerous haman rights violations has lead to the Inernatinal criminal court issuing arrest warrants to top israeli officials like Benjamin Netanyahu (Prime Minister of Israel) and Yoav Gallant (former Minister of Defense of Israel).



ISRAEL THE RED CARD

Israel has also been accused on targetting Palestinian athletes, 2 months and 7 days after the events of October 7th on December 14, 2023 (WAFA) - The Palestinian Football Association said that, in the period between October 7th and December 6th, it documented the killing of 85 Palestinian athletes, including 55 football players and 30 players in other sports.

PALESTINE ACTION BAN

Palestine Action is a British pro-Palestinian direct action network founded with the stated goal of ending global participation in Israel's "genocidal and apartheid regime".

In 2025 the UK government proscribed Palestine Action as a 'Terrorist Organisation', after direct action against Elbit systems and other companies in the UK manufacturing weapons for Genocide in Israel.

"We have long said that the banning of Palestine Action as a terrorist organisation was a grave misuse of sweeping counter-terrorism powers with serious consequences for human rights, and today's outcome does not alter that assessment. It is fundamentally disproportionate to treat direct action protest as terrorism." - Amnesty International.

According to the UK trade and Investments factsheet released on 14th May 2026 showed 'the total trade in goods and services (exports plus imports) between the UK and Israel¹ was 6 billion in the four quarters to the end of Q4 2025.'



**KNIGHTS
5-A-SIDE**





BRAIN DAMAGE

FOOTBALL SHIRT







BRAIN
DAMAGE
FOOTBALL SHIRT



FIFA®

2034 world cup controversy.

FIFA Congress where Morocco, Portugal and Spain were appointed as the hosts of the FIFA World Cup 2030™, with three centenary celebration matches to be held in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay (one in each country), as a Celebration marking 100 years since the first world cup.

The Cynic in me believes this was in order to allow Saudi Arabia to host the 2034 FIFA World Cup.

Due to Fifa rules, each regional football federation (each federation represents a continent) has to wait three world cup cycles (12 years) before hosting another tournament.

This tournament, hosted across the USA, Canda and Mexico rules out North America and 2030 featuring Europe, Africa and South America, leaves only Asia and Oceania as potential hosts.

Due to lack of finances The Oceania football federation is unable to host the world cup, leaving the Saudi Arabian bid being the uncontested winner.



According to investigative reporting by The New York Times, Infantino played a key role in the selection of Saudi Arabia as host. He engaged in private diplomacy on Saudi Arabia's behalf, attempting to clear the way for a winning world cup bid.

The football governing body has had a sponsorship deal since 2024 with Saudi state-owned oil company Aramco, who were responsible for over 1.7 billion tonnes of CO2 mostly from exported oil.

FIFA also unexpectedly sped up the bidding process for the 2034 World Cup, giving only 25 days for interested nations to express their intent to host. Within minutes, Saudi Arabia announced its intentions to host. and successfully won an uncontested bid.



source: the guardian, New York Times

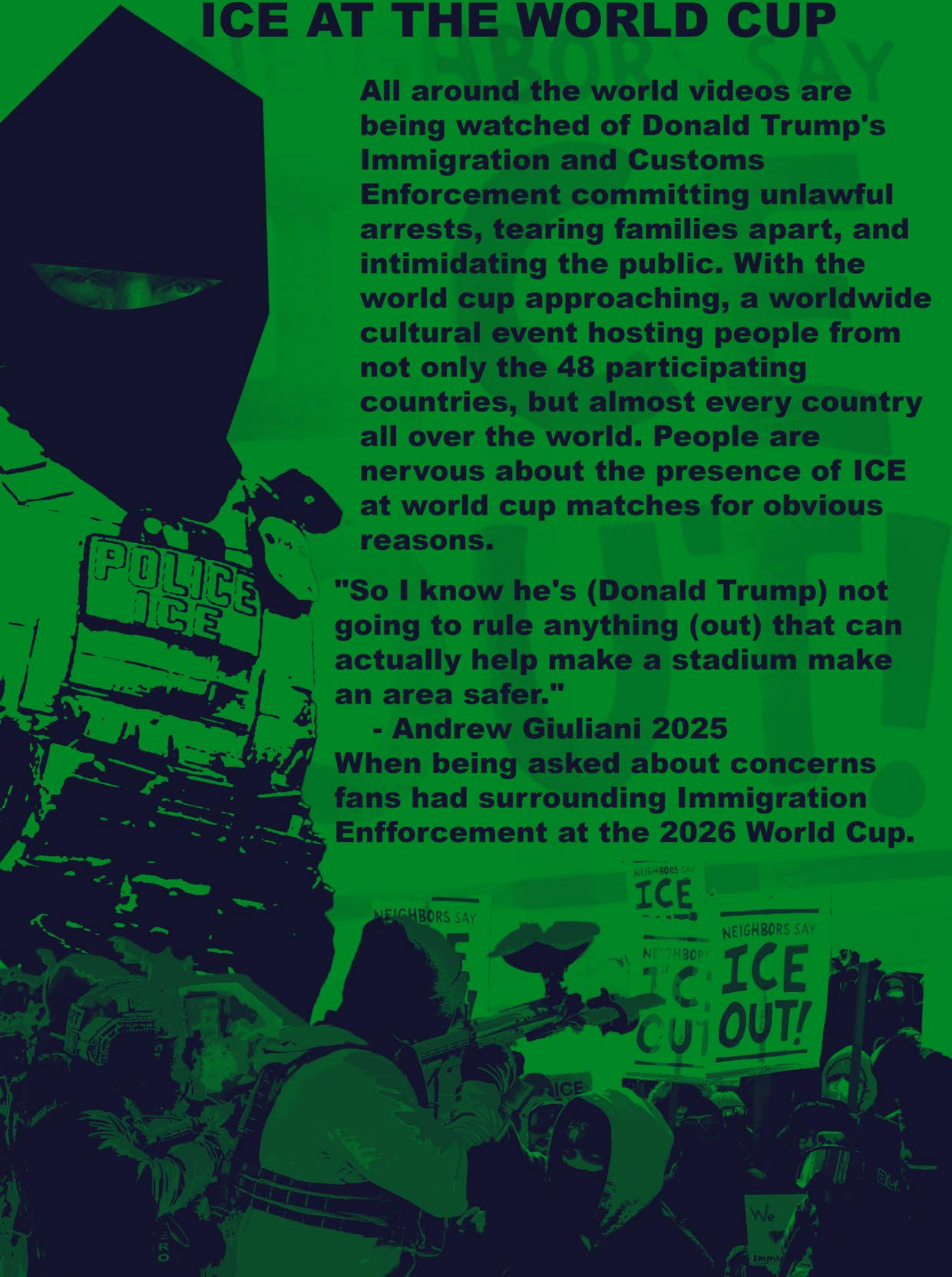
ICE AT THE WORLD CUP

All around the world videos are being watched of Donald Trump's Immigration and Customs Enforcement committing unlawful arrests, tearing families apart, and intimidating the public. With the world cup approaching, a worldwide cultural event hosting people from not only the 48 participating countries, but almost every country all over the world. People are nervous about the presence of ICE at world cup matches for obvious reasons.

"So I know he's (Donald Trump) not going to rule anything (out) that can actually help make a stadium make an area safer."

- Andrew Giuliani 2025

When being asked about concerns fans had surrounding Immigration Enforcement at the 2026 World Cup.



Iran has their place in the group stages of the World Cup, however due to the ongoing war between the USA and Iran this may be a more difficult process. has lead to concerns about their participation in the tournament, 11 members of playing and coaching staff have been denied visa's to attend.

Iran last week accused the US of denying visas to "integral" members of its national football team's backroom staff.

All three of Irans group stage matches will be played on American soil.

According to a Pew Research study in March 2026 over 60% of Americans disagree with Trumps handling of the war in Iran.



**sources: bbc, the independent
pew research**





